ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED BY 38
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE
JUNE 2/13/78

(RI) 100-438794

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Miss Holmes
1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. C.C. Moore
1 - Mr. Rozamus

April 2, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 1 - Mr. D.M. Wells

RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

By letter dated January 2, 1968, authority was requested to institute a telephone surveillance on the national headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, because its President, Martin Luther King, Jr., had publicly announced he would lead a massive civil disobedience in the nation's Capital in the Spring of 1968. At that time it was pointed out that these massive demonstrations could trigger riots.

By letter dated January 8, 1968, you declined authorization of this installation because, "There has not been an adequate demonstration of a direct threat to the national security."

In view of the recent developments in Memphis, Tennessee, where King led a march that ended in a riot, it is reasonable to assume the same thing could happen later this month when King brings his "Poor People's March" to Washington, D. C.

EX-116

[redacted]

DMW:dsm (9)

~~TOP SECRET~~

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME
DATE
BY

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

SECRET TOP SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Despite this violence in Memphis, Levison and King are continuing their plans for this massive civil disobedience to start the latter part of April, 1968, in Washington, D. C.

In view of the internal security aspect involved, authority is requested to install telephone surveillances of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference at its national headquarters at the above-listed address and also at its local headquarters, 1401 U Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., so that we can keep apprised of the strategy and plans of this group.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Approved_____

Date_____

NOTE: Classified "Secret" since it concerns a technical surveillance, the unauthorized disclosure of which could result in serious damage to the Bureau security coverage and to the detriment of national security.

This memorandum recommends the installation of a telephone surveillance on SCLC's headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, and Washington, D. C., for intelligence-type data concerning King's plans for massive civil disobedience in the nation's Capital in the Spring of 1968.

See memorandum G. C. Moore to Mr. W. C. Sullivan same caption, dated 3/29/68 prepared by DJW:dsm.

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